

CLAIMS

1. Thermal cushion comprising a network of blocks connected by articulations and separated by
5 interstices, said blocks comprising a thermal substance and said interstices being filled, at least partially, with a deformable thermal substance, characterised in that the articulations are selected from

- the elastic solid bodies that are attached to the blocks (1)
10 and thus form at least part of the above-mentioned deformable thermal substance;
- the elastic membranes (7) that are attached to the blocks (1) and put under tension so as to compress a deformable body present in the interstices (8), said deformable body
15 forming at least part of the deformable thermal substance; and
- the articulations (6) that are permeable to a fluid present in the interstices (8), said fluid thus forming at least part of the deformable thermal substance.

20 2. Cushion according to Claim 1, characterised in that, in the case where the deformable thermal substance of the interstices (8) comprise an elastic solid body, the latter comprises a foam and/or an elastomer.

25 3. Cushion according to Claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the permeable articulations comprise perforated, flexible and/or elastic membranes (9).

4. Cushion according to any one of Claims 1 to 3, characterised in that a flexible and/or elastic sheet (7) wraps the blocks (1).

30 5. Cushion according to any one of Claims 1 to 4, characterised in that the shape of the blocks (1) is selected from spherical, hemispherical, ovoid, annular, lenticular, conical, truncated conical and polyhedral shapes.

6. Cushion according to Claim 5, characterised in that the blocks (1) are polyhedrons with a triangular, trapezoidal, square or octagonal base.

5 7. Cushion according to Claim 6, characterised in that each block (1) is formed by two truncated pyramids (3, 4) joined along their long bases and in that the blocks are articulated on a articulation (6) positioned in the geometrical plane of said long base.

10 8. Cushion according to any one of Claims 1 to 7, characterised in that the blocks (1) comprise cells with the thermal substance.

15 9. Cushion according to Claim 8, characterised in that, in the case where the thermal substance of the blocks (1) is in a liquid or gaseous state, the cells are sealed relative to the state of the thermal substance.

10. Thermal cushion according to any one of Claims 1 to 9, characterised in that at least one of the thermal substances comprises a substance that is subjected to a change of state at normal temperature of use.

20 11. Cushion according to Claim 10, characterised in that the above-mentioned substance is a pure body or a chemical compound that is congruent at normal temperature of use.

25 12. Thermal cushion according to any one of Claims 1 to 11, characterised in that the network of blocks (11) is covered by a sealed and elastic envelope (20 or 22) provided with an intake and outlet device for a fluid.

30 13. Cushion according to any one of Claims 1 to 11, characterised in that an aperture (13) is made in the network of blocks (11).

14. Cushion according to claim 13, characterised in that the aperture (13) comprises another, removable network of blocks.

15. Cushion according to any one of Claims 1 to 11, 13 and 14, characterised in that the blocks of the network are articulated in a single layer.

16. Cushion according to Claim 15, characterised
5 in that the layer is maintained in a sandwich between two sealed and elastic envelopes (20,22), being each provided with a device for the intake and outlet of a fluid.

17. Cushion according to any one of Claims 1 to 11, 13 and 14, characterised in that the blocks of the network
10 are arranged in at least two layers.

18. Cushion according to Claim 17, characterised in that the two layers are maintained in a sandwich between two sealed and elastic envelopes, being each provided with a device for the intake and outlet of a fluid.

19. Device according to any one of Claims 1 to 11, 15 and 17, characterised in that the network of blocks is arranged in an envelope filled with a deformable thermal substance.

20. Cushion according to Claim 19, characterised
20 in that at least part of the thermal substance of the envelope comprises the thermal substance of the interstices.

21. Device comprising a thermal cushion according to any one of Claims 1 to 20 for the therapeutic treatment of a human or animal body.

22. Device according to Claim 21, characterised
25 in that the cushion (11) is placed inside a rigid shell (14).

23. Device according to Claim 22, characterised in that the rigid shell (14) takes the shape of a human skull (15).

24. Device according to Claim 22 or 23,
30 characterised in that a sealed and elastic envelope (20) is inserted between the network of blocks (11) and the shell (14), said envelope being provided with a device for the intake and outlet of a fluid.

25. Device according to any one of Claims 22 to 24, characterised in that the shell (14) comprises at least two articulated elements (16,17,18).

5 26. Device according to any one of Claims 22 to 25, characterised in that at least one panel (26,27) is articulated to the shell (14) and sized so as to form, together with the shell, a chamber that is more or less hermetic and comprises the cushion.

10 27. Device according to Claim 26, characterised in that the shell (14) and/or a panel (26,27) comprises medical tools.

28. Thermal wall comprising an assembly of thermal cushions (31) according to Claim 19 or 20, between two partitions (29,30).